

RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AGAINST

The annexation of Texas to the United States.

MAY 11, 1838.

Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHT.

Resolves against the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Whereas, a proposition to admit into the United States, as a constituent member thereof, the foreign nation of Texas, has been recommended by the legislative resolutions of several States, and brought before Congress for its approval and sanction; and whereas such a measure would involve great wrong to Mexico, and otherwise be of evil precedent, injurious to the interests, and dishonorable to the character of this country; and whereas its avowed objects are doubly fraught with peril to the prosperity and permanency of this Union, as tending to disturb and destroy the conditions of those compromises and concessions entered into at the formation of the constitution, by which the relative weight of different sections and interests were adjusted, and to strengthen and extend the evils of a system which is unjust in itself, in striking contrast with the theory of our institutions, and condemned by the moral sentiment of mankind; and whereas the people of these United States have not granted to any or all of the departments of their Government, but have retained in themselves, the only power adequate to the admission of a foreign nation into this confederacy: therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, do, in the name of the people of Massachusetts, earnestly and solemnly protest against the incorporation of Texas into this Union, and declare that no act done, or compact made, for such purpose, by the Government of the United States, will be binding on the States or the people.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor be requested to forward a copy of these resolves, and the accompanying report, to the Executive of
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the United States, and the Executive of each State, and also to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they present the resolves to both Houses of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *March 15, 1838.*

Passed.

ROBERT C. WINTHROP, *Speaker.*

IN SENATE, *March 16, 1838.*

Passed.

MYRON LAWRENCE, *President.*

MARCH 16, 1838. Approved.

EDWARD EVERETT.

A true copy. Attest:

JOHN P. BIGELOW, *Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

MAY 11, 1838.

Printed at the office and ordered to be printed.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHT.

Resolved against the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Whereas a proposition to admit into the United States as a constituent member thereof the foreign nation of Texas has been recommended by the legislative resolutions of several States and brought before Congress for its approval and action; and whereas such a measure would involve great danger to freedom and otherwise be of evil precedent injurious to the interests and dishonorable to the character of this country; and whereas its avowed object is to doubly fraught with peril to the prosperity and permanency of this Union as tending to disturb and destroy the conditions of those compromises and concessions entered into in the formation of the confederacy by which the relative weight of different sections and interests were adjusted and to strengthen and extend the evils of a system which is unjust in itself in striking contrast with the theory of our institutions and condemned by the moral sentiment of mankind; and whereas the people of these United States have not granted to any of all of the departments of their Government but have retained to themselves the only power adequate to the admission of a foreign nation into this confederacy; therefore.

Resolved That we the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled do in the name of the people of Massachusetts earnestly and solemnly protest against the incorporation of Texas into this Union and declare that no act done or compact made for such purpose by the Government of the United States will be binding on the State or the people.

Resolved That his excellency the Governor be requested to forward a copy of these resolves and the accompanying report to the Executive of

Printed at the office.